

Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation Environmental Assessment

Operator: Oasis Petroleum North America LLC
Well Name/Number: Dash Federal 2759 11-13H
Location: NW NW Section 13 T27N R59E
County: Roosevelt, MT; Field (or Wildcat) Wildcat

Air Quality

(possible concerns)

Long drilling time: No, 30-40 days drilling time.

Unusually deep drilling (high horsepower rig): Triple derrick drilling rig to drill a single lateral horizontal Bakken Formation test, 20,075' MD/10,560' TVD.

Possible H2S gas production: Yes, slight H2S possible, Mississippian Formations.

In/near Class I air quality area: No Class I air quality area nearby.

Air quality permit for flaring/venting (if productive): Yes, DEQ air quality permit required under 75-2-211.

Mitigation:

☒ Air quality permit (AQB review)

☒ Gas plants/pipelines available for sour gas

☐ Special equipment/procedures requirements

☐ Other: _____

Comments: If there are existing pipeline for natural gas in the area then gas must be tied into system or if no gathering system nearby associated gas can be flared under Board Rule 36.22.1220.

Water Quality

(possible concerns)

Salt/oil based mud: Yes to oil based invert drilling fluids for intermediate casing hole. Horizontal hole will be drilled with saltwater. Surface casing hole will be drilled with freshwater and freshwater mud system.

High water table: No high water table anticipated in the area of review.

Surface drainage leads to live water: No, closest drainages are unnamed ephemeral tributary drainages to Horse Tied Creek, about ¼ of a mile to the east from this location. A large stock pond is situated, about 1.125 miles to the northwest from this location.

Water well contamination: No, closest water wells are over 1 mile away in any direction from this location. This proposed oil well will be drilled with freshwater and freshwater mud to 2,004' and steel surface casing will be run and cemented to surface to protect groundwater.

Porous/permeable soils: No, sandy clay soils.

Class I stream drainage: No, Class I stream drainages.

Mitigation:

☒ Lined reserve pit

☒ Adequate surface casing

☐ Berms/dykes, re-routed drainage

☐ Closed mud system

☐ Off-site disposal of solids/liquids (in approved facility)

☐ Other: _____

Comments: 2,004' surface casing will be drilled with freshwater, steel casing will be run to 2,004' and cemented back to surface, to protect freshwater zones in adjacent water wells. Also, covering Fox Hills aquifer. Adequate surface casing and operational BOP equipment to prevent problems.

Soils/Vegetation/Land Use

(possible concerns)

Steam crossings: None anticipated.

High erosion potential: Yes, location will require a moderate cut of up to 22.5' and a small fill of up to 8.5', required.

Loss of soil productivity: No, location to be restored after drilling, if nonproductive. If productive unused portion of this drillsite will be reclaimed.

Unusually large wellsite: Yes, a large well site 320' X 430'.

Damage to improvements: Slight surface use appears to be CRP or grassland.

Conflict with existing land use/values: Slight

Mitigation

☐ Avoid improvements (topographic tolerance)

☐ Exception location requested

☒ Stockpile topsoil

☐ Stream Crossing Permit (other agency review)

☒ Reclaim unused part of wellsite if productive

☐ Special construction methods to enhance reclamation

☒ Other Requires DEQ General Permit for Storm Water Discharge Associated with Construction Activity, under ARM 17.30.1102(28).

Comments: Access will be over existing county road and existing well access road. New access road will be built into this location, about 521' into this location from the existing well access road. Oil based invert drilling fluids will be recycled. Completion fluids will hauled to a commercial Class II disposal. Cuttings and solids will be buried/solidified on site in the lined reserve pit. The lined pit will be allowed to dry and the pit backfilled. No concerns.

Health Hazards/Noise

(possible concerns)

Proximity to public facilities/residences: Nearest residence is about 1.625 miles to the northwest from this location. The Town of Bainville, Montana is about 8.5 miles to the northwest from this location.

Possibility of H2S: Yes, slight from Mississippian Formations.

Size of rig/length of drilling time: Triple drilling rig 30 to 40 days drilling time.

Mitigation:

☒ Proper BOP equipment

☐ Topographic sound barriers

☐ H2S contingency and/or evacuation plan

☐ Special equipment/procedures requirements

☐ Other: _____

Comments: Adequate surface casing cemented to surface with working BOP stack should mitigate any problems.

Wildlife/recreation

(possible concerns)

Proximity to sensitive wildlife areas (DFWP identified): None identified.

Proximity to recreation sites: None identified.

Creation of new access to wildlife habitat: No

Conflict with game range/refuge management: No

Threatened or endangered Species: Species identified as threatened or endangered are the Pallid Sturgeon, Piping Plover, Interior Lease Tern and Whooping Crane. Candidate species is the Sprague's Pipit. NH tracker website indicates, zero (0) species of concern. NH Tracker website list one (1) potential species of concern: Hayden's Shrew.

Mitigation:

☐ Avoidance (topographic tolerance/exception)

☐ Other agency review (DFWP, federal agencies, DSL)

___ Screening/fencing of pits, drillsite

___ Other: _____

Comments: Private surface lands. There may be species of concern that maybe impacted by this wellsite. We ask the operator to consult with the surface owner as to what he would like done, if a species of concern is discovered at this location. The Board of Oil & Gas has no jurisdiction over private surface lands.

Historical/Cultural/Paleontological

(possible concerns)

Proximity to known sites: None identified.

Mitigation

___ avoidance (topographic tolerance, location exception)

___ other agency review (SHPO, DSL, federal agencies)

___ Other: _____

Comments: Private surface lands. There may be possible historical/cultural/paleontological sites that maybe impacted by this wellsite. We ask the operator to consult with the surface owner as to his desires to preserve these sites or not, if they are found during construction of the wellsite. The Board of Oil & Gas has no jurisdiction over private surface lands.

Social/Economic

(possible concerns)

___ Substantial effect on tax base

___ Create demand for new governmental services

___ Population increase or relocation

Comments: Wildcat well. No concerns

Remarks or Special Concerns for this site

An exploratory single lateral horizontal Bakken Formation test to be drilled to 20,075' MD/10,560' TVD.

Summary: Evaluation of Impacts and Cumulative effects

No long term impacts expected, some short term impacts will occur, but can be mitigated.

I conclude that the approval of the subject Notice of Intent to Drill (does/**does not**) constitute a major action of state government significantly affecting the quality of the human environment, and (does/**does not**) require the preparation of an environmental impact statement.

Prepared by (BOGC): /s/Steven Sasaki

(title): Chief Field Inspector

Date: March 30, 2012

Other Persons Contacted:

Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, GWIC website
(Name and Agency)

Roosevelt County water wells

(subject discussed)

March 30, 2012

(date)

US Fish and Wildlife, Region 6 website

(Name and Agency)

ENDANGERED, THREATENED, PROPOSED AND CANDIDATE SPECIES MONTANA
COUNTIES, Roosevelt County, Montana

(subject discussed)

March 30, 2012

Montana Natural Heritage Program Website

(Name and Agency)

Heritage State Rank= S1, S2, S3, Location T27N R59E

(subject discussed)

March 30, 2012

(date)

If location was inspected before permit approval:

Inspection date: _____

Inspector: _____

Others present during inspection: _____